



UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

1331 Pennsylvania Ave, NW • Suite 1150 • Washington, DC 20425 www.usccr.gov

The Honorable Thad Cochran, Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Roy Blunt, Chair, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
The Honorable Hal Rogers, Chair, House of Representatives Committee on
Appropriations
The Honorable Tom Cole, Chair, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies

March 9, 2015

RE: Letter opposing the President's increase to the Department of Education's
("USDOE") Office of Civil Rights ("OCR") budget submitted by Commission colleagues

Dear Distinguished Members of Congress,

As Chairman and the official spokesperson of the eight-member U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (the "Commission"), I write to inform you that the letter submitted to your offices opposing the President's increase to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights by two of my Commission colleagues does not represent the official position of the Commission. As an eight-member, bi-partisan commission, statements made on behalf of the Commission and expressing Commission opinion require a majority vote.

The letter submitted on Commission letterhead on February 26, 2015, was not presented to the Commission body for a vote, and, therefore, does not represent the position of the Commission on the President's proposal. The letter should not be given the weight of the position of the Commission as a whole.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Martin R. Castro".

Martin R. Castro
Chairman

Cc: USDOE